The Blueprint

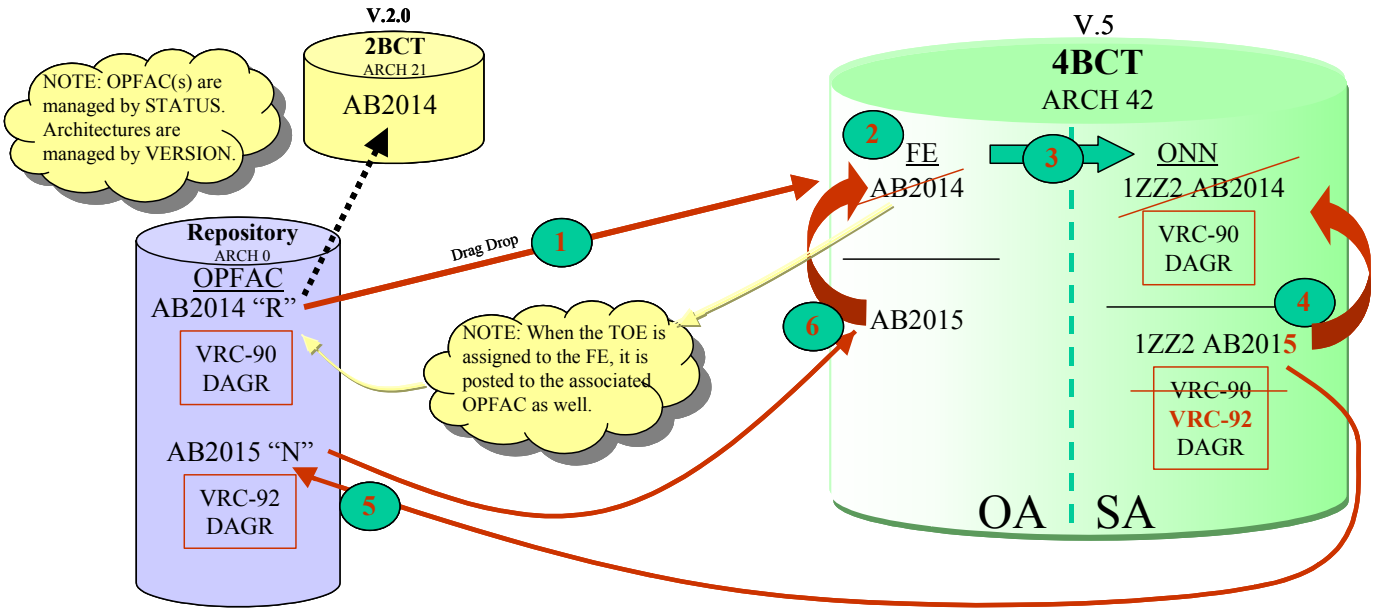
The official News Letter for the Army Architecture Repository Management System (AARMS) *1 FEB 2003*

AARMS version 2.0 Release February 3rd, 2003

The much anticipated AARMS version 2.0 is scheduled for general release 3 February, 2003. With the release of 2.0, AARMS completes Phase II development. The new features for AARMS version 2.0 include the following:

- Full integration of the Operational Architecture Tool, System Architecture Tool, and Management Tool into one cohesive and interactive application.
- A redesigned System Architecture application tool.
- Enhanced Report Writer and the ability to build reports directly in MS Excel and PowerPoint from the AARMS data repository.
- New OV-5, Activity Model, utility that allows for direct interface with AllFusion (formally BPwin and ERwin).
- Enhanced architecture browser that allows for multiple OV/SV product storage in the repository for architecture projects and the switchboard to open the OV and SV tools.

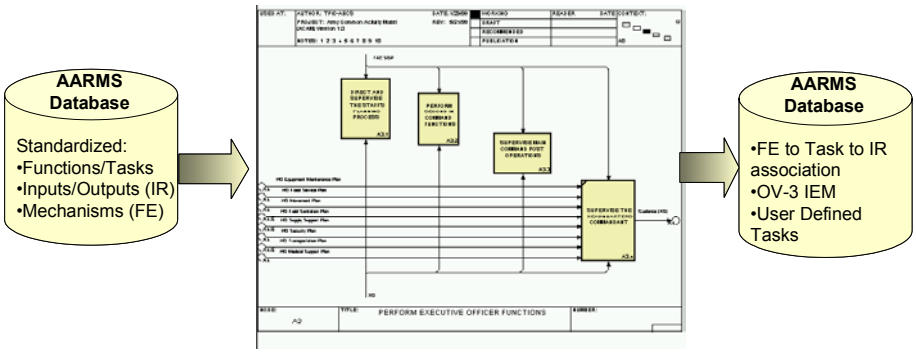
How OPFAC's work in the AARMS OA/SA Realm



1. The analyst picks an OPFAC from the AARMS repository to use with a new architecture project. The OPFAC acts as a template with systems associated with it.
2. The OPFAC becomes a Functional Element (FE) in the architecture. The FE serves as the "Candidate OPFAC" in the OA. TO&E codes are assigned to FE.
3. The FE in the OA seeds the Operational Network Node (ONN) in the SA. The systems associated with the "template" OPFAC are assigned to the ONN and serve as the Initial Physical solution in the SA.
4. In this example, the VRC-90 is replaced with a VRC-92 by a Systems Analyst at some point in the architecture process. The AARMS program will present a list of existing OPFAC's to use that match the new systems solution (if applicable) or allow the construction of a new "Notional" OPFAC. In this case, a new OPFAC is created: AB2015.
5. The new "Notional" OPFAC is added to the Repository (Architecture 0) with the new systems. The OPFAC then goes through the normal OPFAC approval process.
6. The FE AB2014 is replaced in the architecture project by AB2015

The New OV-5, Activity Model Utility

AARMS version 2.0 contains a interface capability with BPwin IDEF0 activity models. The activity and ICOM dictionary for a model project in BPwin can be populated with AARMS domain values. This means a base line model can be built and applied against many different organization structures to generate Information Matrices (OV3) reports.



Key domain values such as Information Requirements (IR), Tasks (AUTL/UJTL), and Operational Elements (OE) are standardized and managed in AARMS. User defined values (UDV) can be added to the model and will show up on discrepancy reports. These "UDV's" can then be submitted to the AARMS table managers for approval and inclusion as standard domain values. Standardization, and using standardized data for activity model definitions, allows the activity model results to port easily back into AARMS. The data can be applied to the OV4 and OV2 to build the OV3 IEM for a given architecture project. The OV5 model itself can then be stored in the AARMS repository as a file. The OV7, Logical Data Model, can also be generated from the BPwin model to ERwin using the AllFusion product.

AARMS Way Ahead for FY03

AARMS version 2.0 marks the completion of Phase II for the project. The architecture community now has a CADM conformant repository and management application to replace the old C4RDP system, as well as, a fully integrated architecture tool set to build OA and SA products directly in the repository in a fully collaborative environment. At the same time, preserving legacy data from three different databases.

The next scheduled release for AARMS will be a version 2.1 in April 03 that will contain an OV6 Mission Thread utility, a totally redesigned architecture browser for managing projects and assigning permissions, more reports and features to existing reports, and better web access to AARMS products.

FY03 will also include a major overhaul of existing AARMS software to conform to the new All_CADM model being released in the spring. We are also looking at methods to provide better and faster access to the AARMS database. In the February/March timeframe, the AARMS branch will conduct testing of the MS Terminal Services application, which may increase speed of service to AARMS clients.

Future plans for the AARMS application include the migration towards a web-based application with access through the AKO. This will enhance data sharing and collaboration with agencies outside of our traditional TRADOC and Army community (i.e. the Objective Force LSI). The AARMS repository will also be engineered to accept data easily from any COTS or GOTS architecture development tool.

W. Clark

The New Face of AARMS

On Monday morning, February 3rd, AARMS users will see the new opening screen above. The user will now have the ability to select the OA Tool Set, the SA Tool Set, or the Management Tool Set (same as OA for now). You will be required to log in to each tool set and can keep both open at the same time. Using basic windows techniques, the user will be able to go back and forth between OA, SA, and the management tools very easily.

Forcing log-ins for each tool will allow for more control on access to the data. This is becoming more and more important as users from outside the traditional TRADOC community use AARMS.

AARMS TRAINING

The AARMS training plan is currently under development to support the version 2.0 release. The v.2.0 training manual will be posted to the web site in pdf format later this month. Training classes will start in March 2003. Refresher training for current users will last approximately 2 days.

The AIMD personnel development center is being built at Fort Gordon. This training center will contain 10 work stations and will provide AIMD and other AARMS users a dedicated training location. AARMS Branch personnel will also travel to Fort Lee and one other location (TBD) for on-site instruction.

AARMS TEAM

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